

We Claim:

1. A punching and scoring backing plate, comprising:  
  
a metal sheet, said metal sheet being formed of aluminum sheet metal.
2. The punching and scoring backing plate according to claim 1, wherein said aluminum sheet metal has a hard anodized top layer.
3. The punching and scoring backing plate according to claim 2, wherein said top layer has a hardness of at least 350 HV 0.05.
4. The punching and scoring backing plate according to claim 2, wherein said top layer has a thickness of at least 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .
5. A method for producing a punching and scoring backing plate, which comprises producing the backing plate from a metal sheet formed of aluminum sheet metal.
6. The method according to claim 5, which further comprises providing the aluminum sheet metal with a top layer by hard anodizing.

7. The method according to claim 6, which further comprises providing a carrier layer lying under the top layer, and introducing a scoring groove into the aluminum sheet metal to a depth causing the scoring groove to completely penetrate the top layer and only incompletely penetrate the carrier layer.

8. The method according to claim 7, which further comprises carrying out the step of introducing the scoring groove into the aluminum sheet metal by milling.

9. A machine for processing a printing material, comprising a punching and scoring backing plate formed of aluminum sheet metal.

10. The machine for processing a printing material according to claim 9, wherein said aluminum sheet metal has a hard anodized top layer.

11. The machine for processing a printing material according to claim 10, wherein said top layer has a hardness of at least 350 HV 0.05.

12. The machine for processing a printing material according to claim 10, wherein said top layer has a thickness of at least 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

13. The machine for processing a printing material according to claim 10, wherein said aluminum sheet metal has a carrier layer lying under said top layer, and said aluminum sheet metal has a scoring groove completely penetrating said top layer and only incompletely penetrating said carrier layer.

14. A method for punching and scoring a printing material, which comprises forming a punching and scoring backing plate of aluminum sheet metal, and punching and scoring the printing material with the backing plate.

15. The method for punching and scoring a printing material according to claim 14, which further comprises carrying out the step of forming the backing plate by providing the aluminum sheet metal with a hard anodized top layer.

16. The method for punching and scoring a printing material according to claim 15, which further comprises providing the top layer with a hardness of at least 350 HV 0.05.

17. The method for punching and scoring a printing material according to claim 15, which further comprises providing the top layer with a thickness of at least 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

18. The method for punching and scoring a printing material according to claim 15, which further comprises providing a

carrier layer lying under the top layer, and introducing a scoring groove into the aluminum sheet metal to a depth causing the scoring groove to completely penetrate the top layer and only incompletely penetrate the carrier layer.

19. The method for punching and scoring a printing material according to claim 14, which further comprises carrying out the step of punching and scoring the printing material with the machine according to claim 9.

20. The method according to claim 14, which further comprises rotating the punching and scoring backing plate in a rotatively operating process.

21. The method according to claim 14, which further comprises providing a printing material sheet as the printing material.